

# DARREN KNIGHT GALLERY

## MICHELLE NIKOU

**1967**

Born Adelaide, South Australia  
Lives Adelaide

## EDUCATION

**1989**

Bachelor of Design (Ceramics), SA School of Art, University of South Australia

**1990**

Graduate Diploma of Arts (Visual Art), SA School of Art, University of South Australia

**2000**

Residency, Ceramics Department, University of South Australia

**2005**

Master of Visual Arts (MA), SA School of Art, University of South Australia

**2018**

PhD, Visual Art, SA School of Art, Architecture and Design, University of South Australia

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

**2022**

*In Vivo*, Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

**2016-2018**

*a e i o u*, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne and touring Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria; Cairns Regional Gallery, Queensland; Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art, Adelaide; Caloundra Regional Gallery, Queensland; Western Plains Cultural Centre, Dubbo, New South Wales

**2015**

Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

**2014**

*Vacancy*, Contemporary Food Lab Exhibition Space, Berlin, Germany

**2012**

Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

**2009**

Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

**2007**

Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia  
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

**2005**

Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

**2004**

Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

**2002**

Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia  
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

**2001**

Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

**2000**

Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

**1999**

Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

**1998**

Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

**1997**

Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

**1996**

Mildura Arts Centre, Victoria, Australia

**1995**

Ararat Regional Art Gallery, Victoria, Australia  
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

**1994**

Public Domain Art Projects Exhibitions

**1993**

Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

**GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

**2024**

*Stupid As*, Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne

**2023**

*Preference Deal*, curated by Mitch Cairns, Cellar Door, Sydney  
*Spring 1883*, Room 224 Hotel Windsor, Melbourne  
Darren Knight Gallery at Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks NSW  
Group Exhibition, Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney NSW

**2021**

*Safe Space*, University of Sunshine Coast Gallery, QLD  
*This is a Poem*, curated by Melissa Keys, Buxton Contemporary, Melbourne  
*The National 2021: New Australian Art*, Carriageworks, Sydney  
*Safe Space*, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, NSW, 16 April - 13 June 2021

**2020**

*Safe Space*, Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery, VIC

*Safe Space*, Devonport Regional Gallery, TAS  
*Safe Space*, Grafton Regional Gallery, NSW  
*Safe Space*, Maitland Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
*Sydney Contemporary 2020*, online platform

#### **2019**

*Safe Space*, Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Queensland, Australia  
*Spring 1848*, curated by Scott Donovan, Knulp, Sydney, Australia  
*I could sleep for a thousand years*, curated by Jon Campbell, Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia  
*Safe Space*, Dogwood Crossing, Miles, QLD, Australia  
*Safe Space*, Bundaberg Regional Art Gallery, QLD, Australia

#### **2018**

Darren Knight Gallery, Booth G01, Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, 13-16 September  
*From Will to Form: TarraWarra Biennale 2018*, TarraWarra Museum of Art, Victoria  
*Safe Space*, curated by Christine Morrow, Logan Art Gallery, Queensland (and touring)

#### **2017**

*Darren Knight Gallery at Spring 1883*, Room 55, The Establishment Hotel, Sydney  
*World Material*, Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, curated by Chloe Wolfson

#### **2016**

*SPRING 1883*, Room 224, Hotel Windsor, Melbourne

#### **2015**

*Tender Thing*, Adelaide Town Hall, Adelaide  
*Writing Art*, Artspace, curated by Scott Donovan, Sydney  
CACSA Contemporary, Contemporary Art Centre of South Australia, Adelaide

#### **2014**

*Return Threshold – Michelle Nikou, Charlie Sofo, Marcin Kobylecki and Patrick Hartigan*, Fontanelle Gallery and Studios, Adelaide, Australia

#### **2013**

*Future Primitive*, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne  
*Atelier Paris: The Power Studio*, University Art Gallery, The University of Sydney, Sydney  
*Black Square*, Australian Foundation of Experimental Art, Adelaide

#### **2012**

*Volume One: MCA Collection*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney  
*Post-planning*, Ian Potter Museum of Art, The University of Melbourne, Victoria, Melbourne  
*Look, Look Again*, Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, Western Australia

#### **2011**

*Rundgang*, Hochschule für bildende Künste, Braunschweig, Germany

#### **2010**

*2010 Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art: Before and After Science*, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

#### **2008**

*Uneasy – recent South Australian art*, Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art, University of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia  
*Scope Basel*, Greenaway Art Gallery stand, Switzerland  
GAG Projects, Berlin

**2006**

*Imagine...the creativity shaping our culture*, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne, Australia  
*Things Will be Great*, MOP, Sydney, Australia  
*Taking the cure*, Downtown Art Space, Adelaide  
*Art (212) Art Fair*, Greenaway Art Gallery stand, New York  
*Calenture*, Light Square Gallery, Adelaide  
*17<sup>th</sup> Annual Fibre Textile Biennial*, Tamworth Regional Gallery, Tamworth  
*New York Art Fair*, New York

**2005**

*Mentor/Mentored*, Contemporary Art centre of South Australia, Adelaide  
*Brisbane Art Fair*, Greenaway Art Gallery  
*ARCO 05*, Greenaway Art Gallery stand, Madrid, Spain

**2004**

*2004: Australian Culture Now*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia  
*MCA Unpacked II, Selections from the MCA Collection by Michelle Nikou and Joan Grounds*,  
University of South Australia Art Museum, Adelaide; Bendigo Art Gallery; Hazelhurst Regional  
Art Gallery, Australia  
*Revenge*, Downtown Art Space, Adelaide  
*Manifesto*, Downtown Art Space, Adelaide  
*Melbourne Art Fair*, Greenaway Art Gallery

**2003-2004**

*Home Sweet Home: Works from the Peter Fay Collection*, touring National Gallery of  
Australia, Canberra; Hazelhurst Regional Art Gallery, Australia

**2003**

*MCA Unpacked II*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, Australia  
*Mystic Medusa on Art*, New Contemporaries, Sydney, Australia

**2001-2002**

*Home is where the heart is*, South Australian touring exhibition, Burra Regional Art Gallery,  
Adelaide Art Museum, University of SA, Port Pirie Regional Art Gallery, Port Augusta  
Fountain Gallery, Australia

**2001**

*Jamboree Clay*, The Jam Factory, Adelaide, Australia

**2000**

*Chemistry – Art in South Australia 1990-2000. The Faulding Exhibition*. Art Gallery of South  
Australia, Adelaide, Australia  
*Genespill*, Imperial Slacks, Sydney, Australia  
*Melbourne Art Fair*, Greenaway Art Gallery

**1998**

*Defiling the Object*, Nexus Gallery, Adelaide, Footscray Community Art Centre, Melbourn,  
Australia, The Substation, Singapore  
*Strange Brew*, Jam Factory, Adelaide, Australia

**1997**

*Comfort*, First Draft, Sydney, Australia  
North Adelaide School of Art, South Australia

**1996**

*Brisbane Art Fair*, Greenaway Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia

**1994**

*Fania*, University of South Australia Art Museum, Adelaide, Australia

**1993**

*Side Step*, Prospect Gallery, Adelaide

**1992**

*The China Cabinet*, Jamboree Workshop, Adelaide

**1990**

Post Graduate Exhibition, University of South Australia Art Museum, Adelaide, Australia  
*Frank*, The Bullring, Adelaide, Australia

## **AWARDS & RESIDENCIES**

**2016**

NAVA Visual Arts Fellowship

**2010-2011**

Hochschule für Bildende Künste Braunschweig, Germany (studying under Professor Thomas Rentmeister)

**2009**

Anne and Gordon Samstag Visual Arts Scholarship

Arts SA Project Grant

**2008**

Arts SA, Professional Development Grant

**2007**

Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Japan Travel Fund  
Residency at Cité des Artes, Paris, University of Sydney

**2006**

Helpmann Academy Mentorship Scheme  
Australia Council for the Arts, New Work Grant

**2005**

Recipient of the Arts SA sponsored *South Australian Living Artist Festival* publication prize  
Arts SA Project Grant

**2004**

SALA monograph, 2005

**2003**

MF & MH Joyner Scholarship of Fine Arts  
Australian Post Graduate Award (APR)  
University of South Australia Post Graduate Research Award (USAPRA)  
Catalogue funding, Arts SA, South Australia

**2001**

AIT Arts Foundry, Roma Mitchell Arts Education Centre

**2000**

Ceramics workshop, University of South Australia  
Project Grant, Arts SA, South Australia

**1998**

EVA Art Prize, Pulteney Grammar School, Adelaide, Australia  
Australia Council for the Arts, New Work Grant

**1995**

Santos Sydney Studio Scholarship

Department for the Arts and Cultural Development, Arts Project Grant

**1990**

Kym Bonython Art Prize, Adelaide

**COMMISSIONS**

**2009**

Aboriginal War Memorial, Torrens Parade Ground - Victoria Drive, Adelaide, with Tony Rosella, Lee-Ann Tjunypa Buckskin, Commissioning Agent, RSL

**2008**

Public Art Work, Port Adelaide – Commissioning Agent Post Adelaide Enfield Council

**2006**

Public Art Work, Rundle St Adelaide, Commission Agent Adelaide City Council

**COLLECTIONS**

Art Gallery of South Australia  
University of South Australia Art Museum  
National Gallery of Australia  
Clo Fleiss Collection, Paris  
Gigi and Josef Fainas Collection, Geneva

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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<http://artguide.com.au/articles-page/show/complexly-primitive/>

Bolton, K. Michelle Nikou Wakefield Press, Adelaide 2006

Bolton, K. *Sculptures*, Agenda, Melbourne October 1995

Day, C & Tutton, S. Before and After Science, 2010 Adelaide Biennale of Australian Art, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide. 2010.

Dwyer, L. *Open Gallery*, Sydney Morning Herald-Spectrum, 24-24 November 2012

Eagle, M. *What differentiates art from everyday making? Home is Where the Heart is*, Catalogue Essay, Country Arts S.A., 2000

Fitzgerald, M. *Open Gallery* in Sydney Morning Herald Spectrum, 24-25 Nov 2012, p.14

Hart, D. *Home Sweet Home: an artist-collector's passion*, Home Sweet Home: Works from the Peter Fay Collection exhibition catalogue, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australia, 2003

Hill, P. *On their selection*, Sydney Morning Herald, Spectrum, October 18-19 2003

Juliff, Dr. Toby, *translating Michelle Nikou's objects*, aeiou, exhibition catalogue, Heide Museum of Art, Victoria, 2016

Keneally, C. *Where are we now*, Broadsheet, Vol 23, No.3

Keys, Melissa & Kendrah, Murray, *tender: the art of Michelle Nikou*, aeiou, exhibition catalogue, Heide Museum of Art, Victoria, 2016

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- Sheedy, M. *For Art's Sake*, Elle, May 1998
- Stanhope, Z. (Ed.) *IMAGINE... the creativity shaping our culture*, exhibition catalogue, Heide Museum of Modern Art, 2006
- Valamanesh, A. *Self Determination*, Artlink, Vol.14, No.4
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